United States Environmental Protection Agency POSITION DESCRIPTION COVERSHEET		I. DUTY LOCATION Washington, DC		2. POSETION NEW MEER				
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Sheila Lewis, Deputy Director OEJ			Matthew Tejada, Director OEJ					
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# Office of Enforcement of Compliance Assurance Office of Environmental Justice

## Environmental Protection Specialist, GS-0028-13

## Statement of Difference

This is a developmental position that has been engineered downward to accommodate recruitment at a lower level and develop the incumbent for the target GS-0028-14 position. This position contains the same duties as the target GS-14 position except for Factor 2, Supervisory Controls. Whereas at the target grade the incumbent performs with administrative supervision only and functions with extraordinary independence, at this developmental level the incumbent will receive both administrative and technical supervision. The supervisor will set the overall objectives of assignments and resources available; supervisor and employee in consultation will determine work to be done and deadlines for completion; incumbent independently plans and carries out the work, resolving most problems that arise; work is reviewed for conformance with overall objectives, compatibility with other work, and effectiveness in meeting objectives.

As experience is gained, controls will be gradually relaxed until the incumbent is performing with the level of independence described for the target position.

A copy of the PD for the target grade is attached.

United States Environmental Protection Agency POSITION DESCRIPTION COVERSHEET			I Washington DC			POSITION NUMBER			
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## Office of Enforcement and Compliance Office of Environmental Justice

## Environmental Protection Specialist, GS-0028-14

#### I. Introduction

This position is located in the Office of Environmental Justice, Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. The Office serves as a centralized unit to address environmental impacts on minority and low-income populations. The Office coordinates communication, outreach, education and training of the public on environmental justice issues, provides technical and financial assistance to outside groups on environmental justice concerns, and serves as a central repository of environmental justice information. The Office engages in environmental justice research and demonstration projects, outreach and education to communities and administers a multi-million dollar federal assistance program to provide communities with opportunities for self-empowerment as well as partnership grants to universities working with communities.

#### II. Major Duties and Responsibilities

- 1. The incumbent serves as the Senior Communications and Outreach Program Manager on cooperative agreements awarded and managed by the office of Environmental Justice. This requires knowledge of community needs, as well as an ability to work closely with regional staff.

  2. Contributes to the development of environmental justice standards by performing research from a variety of sources including available literature, information and viewpoints that represent concerns of various civil rights groups, community leaders, and civil groups. The incumbent is responsible for summarizing the information, identifying trends or issues that cross communities and providing this information in the form of option or position papers which may include recommendations for inclusion in the development of standards.
- 3. Serves as an environmental justice leader with representatives of the media programs to develop an appreciation of agency pollution prevention, clean-up, and regulatory activities and to help foster an increased sensitivity within these programs to environmental justice activities.
- 4. Participates in conferences, interagency meetings, tasks forces and workgroups with a variety of groups which serve to represent Environmental Justice interests or concerns, or are impacted by proposed environmental justice activities. The incumbent is responsible for developing agenda items, presentations and related conference materials, including graphs and charts or pamphlets for Spanish-speaking audiences, translating speeches for the Office Director.

### Factor 1. Knowledge Required

Level 1-8 1550 Points

The work requires expert knowledge of the theories and principles of environmental protection, and important environmental laws (e.g., CAA, CWA, SDWA, etc.) as they relate to issues of environmental justice and the impacts of environmental laws, policies, legislation and regulation on communities, local governments, and other stakeholders in order to serve as an authority in the development and/or promulgation of outreach programs.

Knowledge of the interests and priorities of EJ communities, including common interests and priorities shared by EJ communities across the nation.

Thorough knowledge of the agency's organizational structure, program, and relationships to determine where they are likely to impact minority communities or address issues of EJ. Ability to apply comprehensive qualitative and quantitative analytical techniques, such as the development and administration of questionnaires, synthesize information compiled from reports, or from research, or the preparation of charts and graphs.

## Factor 2. Supervisory Controls

Level 2-5 650 Points

The incumbent works under the administrative direction of the Director of the Office of Environmental Justice, with assignments given in in term of broadly defined missions and functions. The employee has responsibility for planning, designing, and carrying out programs, projects, studies, or other work independently. Results of the work are considered to be technically authoritative and are normally accepted without significant change. If the work should be reviewed, the review concerns such matters as fulfillment of program objectives, effect of advice and influence on the overall EJ program for the agency. Recommendations for new projects and alteration of objectives are usually evaluated for such considerations as availability of funds and other resources, broad program goals, or national priorities.

#### Factor 3. Guidelines

Level 3-5 650 Points

Guidelines consist of basic administrative policy statements concerning EJ issues and problems being studies; may include reference to pertinent legislative history, related court decisions, state and local laws, or policy initiatives of agency management.

The employee uses judgment and discretion in determining the intent, and in interpreting and revising existing policy and guidance for use by others within or outside the employing organization. The employee reviews proposed legislation, regulations, or guidance that would significantly change the basic character of agency EJ programs, the way the agency conducts its business with the public or with private industry in communities with EJ issues, or that modify important inter-agency relationships.

#### Factor 4. Complexity

Level 4-5 325 Points

The work includes varied duties requiring many different and unrelated processes an methods to be applied to a broad range of activities involving EJ issues. The incumbent is required to interpolate from sociological data in order to make recommendations as to how it will fit with communities with EJ concerns. The work requires originating new techniques, establishing criteria, or developing new information.

Decisions regarding what needs to be done include major areas of uncertainty in approach, methodology, or interpretation and evaluation processes resulting from such elements as continuing changes in the EJ program, technological developments, unknown phenomena, or conflicting requirements.

## Factor 5. Scope and Effect

Level 5-5 325 Points

The purpose of the work is to lead the agency's efforts in outreach, education, and training of the public in EJ issues and to provide information on opportunities for federal assistance and other programs to resolve EJ issues in affected communities. The employee's work serves a major role in the achievement of the goals of the national EJ program.

#### Factor 6. Personal Contacts

Level 6-4 110 Points

Contacts include representatives of communities, state agencies, local government agencies, industry representatives, and individuals seeking information, as well as employees, supervisors and managers in other parts of EPA and other parts of the Federal government in a moderately unstructured setting. Works with grantee, contractors, and representatives from the above names types of organizations to manage nationwide projects and work groups made up of representatives from all such groups. Incumbent schedules national meetings addressing EJ, which will include high ranking officials from outside the EP A, and in some cases, nationally recognized experts, government officials, presidents of corporations and national unions, state governors, and local mayors.

### Factor 7. Purpose of Contacts

Level 7-3 120 Points

Purposes of contacts are to facilitate decision-making on EPA's involvement in EJ projects; lead work groups and oversee projects of national scope in solving EJ issues; influencing, motivating, and convincing persons from local communities, industry, and interest groups in order to obtain agreement on the EPA's position on EJ concerns, gain agreement on future direction, establish a mutually beneficial approach to solving common problems; presenting the EPA's position on many controversial EJ issues; presenting alternatives and developing compromises.

#### Factor 8. Physical Demands

Level 8-1 5 Points

The work is primarily sedentary.

#### Factor 9. Work Environment

Level 9-1 5 Points

The work is performed in an office environment.

Total Points: 3740

Conversion: 3605 - 4050 = GS-14

This position is appropriately classified as: Environmental Protection Spec., GS-0028-14

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## **Extramural Resources Management Duties Checklist**

This checklist must be used with all PDs to identify the percentage of time an employee is engaged in duties related to managing contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and interagency agreements. For positions requiring performance of these duties for 25%, or more of the employees time, in addition to this checklist, such duties must also be described in the body (major duties area) of the PD.

Employee Information	Percentage of Time Spent on Extramural Resources
Name K. D. P	This position has no extramural resources management responsibilities.
Position Number <u>NOO2814</u>	Total extramural resources management duties
Title Environmental Protection Specialist	20% occupy less than 25% of time.  Total extramural resources management duties
Series/Grade GS 14	occupy 25% to 50% of time. These duties are indicated below and described in the position description.  Total extramural resources management duties occupy more than 50% of time. These duties are indicated below and described in the position description.
Organization Office of Environmental Justice	
When this checklist is used as an amendment to a possible supervisor's Signature  Personnel Specialist's	Date 4/14/20/6
Part 1. Contracts Management Duties  Pre-award:  X Plans Procurements Estimates Costs X Obtains funding commitments Y Prepares procurement requests Writes statements of work Reviews statements of work Processes unsolicited proposals Responds to pre-award inquiries Participates in pre-award conferences Conducts technical evaluation of proposals Participates in debriefing/protests Other (lists)  Post-award: Prepares delivery orders Reviews contractor work plans Reviews contractor progress reports	X Monitors management and performance of delivery orders/work assignments after award Defines scope of work for work assignments X Approves payment requests of ACH drawdowns Manages cost-reimbursement contracts Reviews invoices X Inspects and accepts deliverables Other (list)  Close-cut: Writes reports on contractor performance, costs, and tasks performed Reconciles payments with work performance Closes-out payments Performs cost accounting X Provides assistance to Contracting Officer in settling claims Other (list)
Monitors government-furnished property  X Monitors cost, management, and overall technical performance of contract after award	Percentage of Time Spent on Contracts Management  10 %  Continued

Part 2. Grants/Cooperative Agreements Duties  Pre-application/Application:  Prepares solicitation for proposals  Identifies potential grantses for area of program  emphasis  Makes initial determinations (whether project is	Advises Grants Management Office of potential problems/issues  Participates in decisions/actions to ensure successful project completion and in decisions to impose sanctions  Approves payments requests or ACH drawdowns  Reviews requests for modifications, additional
procurement or assistance, whether agency has	funding, etc., and makes recommendations to
legal authority, whether applicant is eligible.	Grants Management Office
whether funding is available, etc.)	Negotiates amendments
Provides administrative information to applicants	Reviews Cost/Price/Analysis for recipient
Determines appropriateness of applicant's	contracts/change orders (Superfund only)
workplan/activities/budget and compliance with	When necessary, recommends termination of the
regulations and guidelines and negotiates changes	agreement
with applicant	Resolves with Grants Management Office
Assists applicant in resolving issues in application	administrative and financial issues
For cooperative agreement, determines substantial	Conducts periodic reviews to ensure compliance
Federal involvement and develops a condition for	with agreement
agreement	Other (list)
Negotiates level of funding	Man a sada
Conducts site visits to evaluate program capability	Close-out:
Serves as resource to Selection Panel	Certifies deliverables were satisfactory and timely
Informs applicants of funding decisions Other (list)	Provides assistance to recipients and Grants  Management Office to ensure timely close-out
and had	Reconciles payment with work performed
Award:	Notifies recipient of close-out requirements
Prepares funding package, including Decision	Obtains legal assistance if necessary to resolve
Memorandum	incomplete close-out
Obtains concurrences/approvals	If project is audited, responds to issues and ensures
Reviews/concurs in completed document	recipient complies with audit recommendations
Establishes project file	Other (list)
Other (list)	
Project Management/Administration:  X Monitors recipient's activities and progress  Reviews reports and deliverables and notifies recipient of comments	Percentage of Time Spent on Grants/Cooperative Agreements Management  5 %
X Provides technical assistance to recipients	
Part 3. Interegency Agreements Duties	
Pre-Agreement:	X Monitors cost management and overall technical
Plans and negotiates work effort	performance
Estimates costs	Participates in decisions about project
Obtains funding commitments	modification/termination
Prepares commitment notice Writes or reviews scope of work	Conducts periodic review of Superfund State Contracts payments receipts (Superfund only)
Responds to pre-agreement inquiries	Inspects and accepts deliverables
Participates in pre-agreement conferences	Other (list)
Coordinates with appropriate staff in developing	
Independent Government Cost Estimates (IGEs)	Ciose-out:
Negotiates and ensures execution of Superfund	Reviews final report
State Contracts (Superfund only)	Decides on disbursement of equipment
Performs technical evaluation of work plan and	Reconciles payments with work performed
budget	Reviews Superfund State Contracts to ensure full
Prepares funding package and obtains necessary	reimbursement (Superfund only)
concurrences Other (list)	Certifies deliverables  Resolves close-out issues with Grants Management
Other (list)	Office/other agency
	Other (list)
Project Management/Administration:	
Reviews progress reports/financial reports	Percentage of Time Spent on Interagency Agreements
	Management:
	5 %